

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CCO-00 CIAE-00 OTPE-00 EB-07 FCC-02

INR-07 NSAE-00 OC-05 USIA-15 COME-00 BIB-01 TRSE-00

OMB-01 ABF-01 IOE-00 SP-02 AF-06 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12

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P 161323Z JUN 75

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3767

UNCLAS GENEVA 4515

EO: 11652: N/A

TAGS: ITU AORG

SUBJ: ITU ADMIN COUNCIL RECOMMENDS INCREASE IN 1976 BUDGET CEILING

1. SUMMARY: FOLLOWING LENGTHY DEBATE ON JUNE 13, ITU ADMIN COUNCIL VOTED 20-13 (US) - 2 TO SEND CABLE TO MEMBER STATES REQUESTING PERMISSION TO EXCEED LIMITES ON 1976 REGULAR BUDGET IMPOSED BY TORREMOLINOS CONVENTION. BECAUSE COUNCIL UNABLE TO AGREE ON AMOUNT OF INCREASE MAJORITY DECIDED THAT CABLE WOULD NOT SPECIFY AMOUNT, WHICH IN EFFECT GIVES COUNCIL BLANK CHECK TO INCREASE BUDGET TO ANY AMOUNT IT SEES FIT. REPLIES REQUESTED BY MIDNIGHT JUNE 21. USDEL RECOMMENDS US CAST NEGATIVE VOTE. END SUMMARY.

2. IN DRAFT 1976 REGULAR BUDGET PREPARED BY SECRETARIAT, IT WAS PROPOSED THAT TORREMOLINOS CEILING BE INCREASED BY SF 743,800 TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF INFLATIONARY FACTORS. THEN DURING FIRST FEW DAYS THIS SESSION, FIGURE FIRST INCREASED TO 761,000 AND FINALLY TO SF 1.2 MILLION TO COVER BOTH EFFECTS OF INFLATION AND CURRENT INCREASE IN REQUIREMENTS. SYG AND STAFF PRESSED FOR EARLY DISPATCH OF CABLE REQUESTING PERMISSION FOR INCREASE AND ARRANGED COUNCIL AGENDA IN SUCH WAY THAT NO DISCUSSION OF BUDGET AND PROPOSED INCREASE WAS POSSIBLE PRIOR TO RECEIPT OF REPLIES TO CABLE.

3. DECISION TO DISPATCH CABLE STRONGLY OPPOSED BY MAJOR CONTRI-  
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BUTORS (INCLUDING US, USSR, FRG, JAPAN, CANADA, AUSTRALIA, SWE-

DEN, UK) ON GROUNDS THAT IT PREMATURE TO REQUEST APPROVAL FOR INCREASE PRIOR TO EXAMINATION IN DEPTH OF SECRETARIAT PROPOSALS. VIRTUALLY ALL LDCS SUPPORTED SENDING OF CABLE, SOME EXPRESSING FEARS IN CORRIDOR CONVERSATIONS THAT TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES OF UNION COULD BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED UNLESS REGULAR BUDGET LIMITATIONS INCREASED EVEN THOUGH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES FUNDED FROM SEPARATE BUDGET FINANCED BY UNDP SOURCES AND THUS OUTSIDE TORREMOLINOS CEILINGS. WINNING MARGIN FOR SENDING OF CABLE SUPPLIED BY NUMBER OF EUROPEANS--SWISS, ITALIANS AND FRENCH--WHO BELIEVED TIME FACTOR WAS OVERRIDING AND FELT CABLE HAD TO BE SENT SOONEST TO GIVE COUNCIL OPTION OF INCREASING BUDGET LIMITS IF THOROUGH STUDY SHOWED INCREASES UNAVOIDABLE.

4. USDEL BELIEVES THAT THOROUGH EXAMINATION OF CUTS SUGGESTED IN GROUP OF EXPERTS REPORT, PLUS ECONOMIES PROPOSED BY COUNCIL AFTER FULL LINE-BY-LINE REVIEW OF PROPOSED BUDGET, WILL OBVIATE NEED TO INCREASE TORREMOLINOS LIMITS FOR 1976. WE ALSO GREATLY DISTURBED BY WORDING OF CABLE WHICH SETS NO LIMITS ON BUDGET INCREASE AND THUS COULD CONCEIVABLY BE USED TO BALLOON BUDGET INCREASE EVEN HIGHER THAN SF 1.2 MILLION. ACCORDINGLY USDEL STRONGLY RECOMMENDS DEPT SEND NEGATIVE REPLY TO COUNCIL CABLE.DALE

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**TAGS:** AORG, ITU  
**To:** STATE  
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